

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-16

Please add the following new claims 17-32 as set forth below.

A complete listing of all claims in this application is set forth below.

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

17. (New) 17. A method for establishing a gap between a femur and a tibia at a knee joint, comprising:

providing an instrument having a positioning member that defines (i) a femur facing side, (ii) a tibia facing side, and a guide slot configured to receive an intramedullary member, said positioning member including a first coupler;

providing an augment having a second coupler configured to cooperate with the first coupler to connect the augment to the positioning member;

coupling the second coupler of the augment to the first coupler of the positioning member so that the augment and the positioning member are attached together;

providing an intramedullary member;

disposing the intramedullary member within an intramedullary canal of the tibia; and

locating the positioning member and the augment within the gap defined between the femur and the tibia while the augment and the positioning member are attached together so that (i) the femur facing side of the positioning member faces the femur, (ii) the tibia facing side of the positioning member faces the tibia, and (iii) the intramedullary member is received within the guide slot of the positioning member of the instrument..

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the first coupler of the positioning member includes a bore having a resilient O-ring positioned therein,
the second coupler of the augment includes a pin,
the coupling step includes inserting the pin into the bore so that that the pin comes into frictional contact with the O-ring, and
the locating step includes locating the positioning member and the augment within the gap while pin is in frictional contact with the O-ring.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein:
the bore defines an internal groove, and
the O-ring is positioned within the internal groove during the locating step.

20. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein:
the first coupler of the positioning member includes a bore,
the second coupler of the augment includes a pin,
the coupling step includes inserting the pin into the bore, and
the locating step includes locating the positioning member and the augment within the gap while pin is located within the bore.

21. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein:

the coupling step includes attaching the augment to the femur facing side of the positioning member, and

the locating step includes locating the positioning member and the augment within the gap while augment is attached to the femur facing side of the positioning member.

22. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein:

the coupling step includes attaching the augment to the tibia facing side of the positioning member, and

the locating step includes locating the positioning member and the augment within the gap while augment is attached to the tibia facing side of the positioning member.

23. (New) The method of claim 17, further comprising securing a resection guide having a first mating feature to the femur, wherein:

the instrument further includes a connector member having a second mating feature, and

the locating step includes mating the second mating feature of the connector member with the first mating feature of the resection guide.

24. (New) A system for establishing a gap between a femur and a tibia at a knee joint, comprising:

an instrument having (i) a positioning member that defines a femur facing side and a tibia facing side, said positioning member including a first coupler, and (ii) a connector member having a first mating feature;

an augment having a second coupler that cooperates with said first coupler to fix said augment to said positioning member; and

a femoral resection guide having a second mating feature that mates with said first mating feature of said instrument.

25. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein:

said first coupler of said positioning member includes a bore having a resilient O-ring positioned therein, and

said second coupler of said augment includes a pin that is in frictional contact with said O-ring.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein:

said bore defines an internal groove, and

said O-ring is positioned within said internal groove.

27. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein:
said first coupler of said positioning member includes a bore, and
said second coupler of said augment includes a pin that is received within
said bore.

28. (New) A system for establishing a gap between a femur and a tibia at
a knee joint, comprising:

an instrument having a positioning member that includes a first coupler,
said positioning member defining (i) a femur facing side, (ii) a tibia facing side,
and (iii), a guide slot configured to receive an intramedullary pin;

an augment having a second coupler that cooperates with said first
coupler to fix said augment to said positioning member; and

an intramedullary pin received within said guide slot of said positioning
member of said instrument.

29. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein:
said first coupler of said positioning member includes a bore having a
resilient O-ring positioned therein, and
said second coupler of said augment includes a pin that is in frictional
contact with said O-ring.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein:

said bore defines an internal groove, and

said O-ring is positioned within said internal groove.

31. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein:

said first coupler of said positioning member includes a bore, and

said second coupler of said augment includes a pin that is received within
said bore.

32. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein said instrument further has a
handle extending from said positioning member.